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## CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

**24-HOUR REPORT****14 DECEMBER 2018**

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**(U) CALIFORNIA****(U) Los Angeles - Bomb Threats across California Appear to be part of Nationwide Hoaxes**

(U) Authorities say bomb threats e-mailed to schools, universities, consulates, and other business locations across California appear to be hoaxes. The targets were told they would be bombed unless they immediately paid a ransom in bitcoin. The phony threats are part of a massive nationwide scheme by someone trying to force a company or entity to pay an untraceable sum, with the message being received by hundreds of supposed targets, according to police.

SOURCE: 13 December 2018, [Los Angeles Times](#)

**(U) SOUTHWEST BORDER****(U) Arizona - US Citizen arrested by Border Patrol for smuggling heroin**

(U) Yuma - Border Patrol agents seized nearly \$41,000 in heroin and arrested a shuttle van passenger at the Interstate 8 Immigration Checkpoint near Yuma on Wednesday. Agents assigned to the checkpoint referred a shuttle van to the secondary inspection area for immigration checks. A Border Patrol canine positively alerted to the backpack of an 18-year-old passenger traveling in the rear of the van. Two cellophane wrapped packages were discovered, weighing 2.35 pounds, which tested positive for heroin.

SOURCE: 13 December 2018, [KVOA News](#)

**(U) NATIONAL****(U) Indiana - Teen Suspect Takes Own Life in Shooting at Middle School**

(U) Richmond - Questions remain after police say a 14-year-old boy shot his way into a middle school in Richmond, Indiana, ultimately shooting and killing himself. After the suspect, who was not a student of the school, shot his way through a locked glass door, police engaged him, preventing him from gaining further entry into the school. The teen's motive is unknown at this time, but what police do know is that a tip called in before the teen arrived at the school saved lives.

SOURCE: 13 December 2018, [Fox News](#)

**(U) Texas - FBI Reportedly Warns Texas Police of Possible ISIS 'Lone-Wolf' Attacks Against Churches**

(U) Winnsboro - Local police said yesterday that the FBI warned of possible ISIS terrorist attacks against churches in Texas. Officials reportedly received "broad-based" intelligence information from the FBI indicating there may be attacks on Texas churches from "lone wolf" ISIS members. According to the FBI, the threat was posted on social media by a pro-ISIS Twitter user on Friday, 7 December. The twitter user specifically named Texas and indicated attacks would occur very soon. Captioned with post were the phrases #churchtarget, #USA, #Texas, and "very soon" with a flame emoji. Authorities are asking churches to have security teams on alert the next few weeks.

SOURCE: 13 December 2018, [CBS 19 News](#)

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**UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY****(U) INTERNATIONAL****(U) France - Christmas Market Shooting Suspect Killed by Police**

(U) Strasbourg – French police have killed a man suspected of murdering three people in France’s largest Christmas market — bringing an end to a three-day manhunt. Cherif Chekatt, 29, was “neutralized” by law enforcement in Strasbourg’s Neudorf district, near where more than 700 officers had been hunting for him earlier in the day. Armed with a knife and firearm, Chekatt, is believed to have unleashed an attack at the market in Place Kleber square Tuesday evening, leaving three people dead and 12 wounded. ISIS has subsequently claimed responsibility for the attack.

SOURCE: 13 December 2018, [NY Post](#)

**(U) Mexico - UAS Damages Passenger Jet During Landing**

(U) Tijuana - An Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS), or "drone", collided with a passenger airplane in Mexico, mauling its nosecone and radar as the jet was attempting to land in Tijuana, Mexico. The crew had to request assistance to land the crippled aircraft. An Aeromexico Boeing 737-800 collided with the remote-controlled craft while approaching the airport for landing on Wednesday, as confirmed by the airline. While no one was injured, the incident highlights the potential hazard of a UAS striking aircraft, possible in the engines or other components critical to flight.

SOURCE: 13 December 2018, [RT News](#)

**(U) Russia - Seven Detained for Allegedly Supporting ISIS and Al-Nusra Front**

(U) Moscow - Russian authorities say they have detained seven people suspected of financially supporting two extremist organizations in the Middle East. Russia's Investigative Committee said on 13 December that the suspects had been apprehended in and around the Moscow region and the three North Caucasus regions of Chechnya, Daghestan, and Ingushetia. They were suspected of, since 2010, sending at least 38 million rubles (\$570,000) to militants of ISIS and the Al-Nusra Front - Al-Qaeda’s Syrian affiliate until 2016. Violence is common in the North Caucasus, where Islamic militants have been mounting frequent attacks against police, public officials, and moderate Muslims.

SOURCE: 13 December 2018, [Radio Free Europe - Radio Liberty](#)

**(U) West Bank - Palestinian Gunman Sought After Two Israeli Soldiers Shot Dead**

(U) Ramallah - A Palestinian gunman opened fire at a bus stop outside a West Bank settlement yesterday, shooting at soldiers and civilians and killing at least two Israeli soldiers before fleeing. The Israeli military said the assailant also wounded two other people, including another soldier who was critically wounded. While the West Bank experiences occasional deadly violence, often between Israeli troops and Palestinian protesters, much of the recent Israeli-Palestinian bloodshed has been limited to the Gaza Strip, where some 175 Palestinians have been killed by Israeli fire in border protests.

SOURCE: 13 December 2018, [CBC News](#)

**(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.**

**(U) FOR QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS, PLEASE EMAIL [STAC@CALOES.CA.GOV](mailto:STAC@CALOES.CA.GOV), OR CALL 916-636-2900.**

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